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## BOOK DEPARTMENT.

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### NOTES.

**THE MAKING OF HAWAII** \* by Professor Blackman is an attempt to study the important social problems which have arisen in consequence of the blending of widely different races and of civilized with nature peoples under rather unique conditions in a limited and well defined environment possessing both temperate and tropical climates. It is an essay in culture study and is not in any sense a history of Hawaii. That which will appeal to many as the greatest merit of the book may also, doubtless, be said to be its chief weakness. The author merely arranges a vast amount of interesting material under a few topics which brings out its relation to much discussed and debatable problems in social evolution without pressing his deductions nearly so far as he might have done, nor having apparently any coherent theory or explanation to offer. Thus, in discussing environment, people and political organization, attention is called to the lack of game and of domestic animals. This fact precludes a hunting or pastoral life and makes of the Hawaiians prematurely an agricultural folk, although fishing existed from early times. Again the absence of gentile organization is shown, but no attempt is made to discover the real stages or trace out the economic antecedents of social life in Hawaii. The volume is divided into three parts, treating of the early period prior to the discovery of the islands; second, the middle period from the discovery by Captain Cook in 1778 to the arrival of the American missionaries in 1820, and, thirdly, from 1820 to the present time. In the third period the topics treated are: Religion and morals, constitution and laws, land tenure, education, industries and commerce, movements of population, decay of native population, and the white man in the tropics. The last chapter recalls Professor Blackman's discussion of the same subject in the *Independent* in which he challenges Mr. Kidd's position in his "Control of the Tropics" and asserts with considerable evidence in support of his statements that the final results of the efforts of the white man to colonize tropical regions are likely to be successful.

\* *The Making of Hawaii*: A study in social evolution. By WILLIAM FREMONT BLACKMAN, Professor in Yale University. Pp. xii, 266. Price, \$2.00. New York: The Macmillan Company.

THE ANNUAL REPORT of the United States Commissioner of Navigation,\* Mr. Eugene Tyler Chamberlain, is, like his previous reports, an admirable document. It is devoted mainly to the presentation of a brief in favor of granting subsidies to American merchant vessels. The argument is ably and fully presented and will be convincing to many persons who have been in doubt as to the wisdom of government subsidies for the purpose of promoting the growth of our merchant marine.

The considerations urged in favor of government aid to our maritime interests are grouped as follows:

"These reasons fall into two classes—political and commercial. Under the first class are those reasons which are based: First, on the relations to the navy of the merchant marine as an element in the national defence; second, on the relations of a merchant marine to insular territory; and, third, on the relations of a merchant marine to new markets, as those of Asia and, to a less extent, Africa and South America. Commercial reasons are found, fourth, in the necessities of ocean mail communication; fifth, the relations of a national merchant marine to national imports and exports; sixth, the value of the carrying trade; and, seventh, the promotion of ship building and contributory industries."

It is urged that other nations are now giving their merchant marine as much aid as would be given ours by the enactment of the Subsidy Bill at present before Congress,—Senate Bill 5590. It is admitted by the commissioner that the reasons prompting the various nations of the world in their support of their merchant marine vary widely, but that the amount of aid given by them is fully as much as would be granted by the United States were it to enact into a law the bill now before Congress. This line of reasoning seems rational and conclusive. Attached to the report are appendices containing a mine of valuable information. Especial attention should be called to the Appendix E, giving in detail the amount of aid to shipping now being granted by each of the different countries of the world. Appendix I gives the foreign tonnage tax laws and rates, and in Appendix P are contained, among other things, a list of steamships under foreign flags owned by American capital, and a list of the world's fast steamships, tables of distances between the leading ports of the world and extensive extracts from the admirable address of Sir Robert Giffen, on the value of the ocean carrying trade considered as an industry. The last one hundred pages of the volume contain the usual statistical tables that are found in the annual reports of the commissioner.

\**Annual Report of the Commissioner of Navigation for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 1899.* By EUGENE TYLER CHAMBERLAIN. Part i, pp. 405. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1899.

THE "LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT FOR IRELAND"\* is an excellent handbook, giving a thorough description of the system of local government established by the law of 1898. It is said that the increased powers conferred upon the counties and other local bodies instead of allaying the discontent of the voters or of satisfying the Home Rule agitators, has on the contrary only served to strengthen the influence of the national party throughout Ireland.

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THERE IS A constant demand from the high schools for one small book which shall contain the whole history of the world. Professor Colby, of New York University, has written the latest volume to supply this demand.† His book seems to us more successful on the whole than any previous attempt. The arrangement is good, the style clear, and the subjects well chosen. There do not seem to be more misleading statements than are usual in books of this kind. On the other hand some of the illustrations are positively bad, because they are wholly fanciful. The picture of the crusaders on p. 270 is typical of a propensity to use anything available without regard to its historical fidelity.

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MISS NELLIE NEILSON, of Philadelphia, has produced an unusually valuable contribution to economic history as her doctor's thesis at Bryn Mawr.‡ Two years ago she published an article in the "American Historical Review" on the "Boon-works of Ramsey Abbey." She has now, by a fuller study of the printed and the manuscript sources, given a minute and enlightening account of the whole round of rural economic conditions in that group of some sixty manors in central England during the twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. The three chapters devoted respectively to a general description of Ramsey and its landed estates, to a comparison of the conditions on the various manors, and to a minute examination of the administration of the typical manor of Wystowe, are perhaps of equal value, though the first two are naturally more interesting. The thesis itself is followed by over a hundred pages of documents not previously printed, consisting for the most part of bailiffs' account rolls of the manor of Wystowe, chosen as a typical manorial estate, and found in the British Museum and the Public Record Office.

\* With Commentaries by John J. Clancy, M. P. Pp. viii, 464. Price, 10s. 6d. Dublin: Sealey, Byers & Walker, 1899.

† *Outlines of General History*. By FRANK MOORE COLBY. Pp. 610. Price, \$1.50. New York: American Book Co., 1899.

‡ *Economic Conditions on the Manors of Ramsey Abbey*. By NELLIE NEILSON, A. M. Pp. 85, 124.

It is just such careful, detailed work as this that is needed to make history an accurate picture of the life of the past. To get right down to the normal every-day conditions of life, so far as they were recorded in documentary form,—and such life was much more minutely recorded in those times than it is being in our own,—to reproduce, to analyze, to interpret those documents, will gradually reconstruct history of a truly scientific kind in one of its most important aspects and during one of the most interesting periods.

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PROFESSOR PETERMAN'S "ELEMENTS OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT" is\* one of the best-planned works of its kind which have been published in recent years. The book is intended for public school use. The difficulties in the way of a successful book on civics for students of this grade are so great that they have never been completely overcome. The study of government is one which requires considerable maturity; the first requirement of a text-book for scholars in the earlier grades is therefore naturalness and simplicity. Government, unfortunately, is not simple and it is quite often unnatural. In a federal union this difficulty is magnified, and hence arises the weakness of all our American school books on this subject. The author has endeavored to avoid this obstacle by beginning with the family as a basis, passing from the family to the school district, the township, the county, the state, and finally the federal union. The plan is admirable, far better in fact than its execution. A supplement varying with each state is devoted to the peculiar features of the local and state institutions. Suggestive questions and subjects for debate are given at the close of each chapter. There are also two good chapters dealing with Elections and Party Machinery. If government as an elementary study is not to be taught in immediate connection with history, then the use of some such work as that before us is to be recommended.

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THE UNITED STATES and England have more than a passing interest in Japan, and *Japan in Transition* † is a readable and entertaining volume, as well as a valuable addition to our knowledge of that rapidly changing nation. The book is an attempt to analyze impartially the conditions in Japan which have resulted from thirty years of "modernizing," and have been intensified by the successful Chinese war. The principal emphasis is given to social and political conditions, although there are sufficient industrial touches to give the picture a proportional background.

\* Pp. 263. Price, 60 cents. American Book Company, 1899.

† *Japan in Transition*. By STAFFORD RANSOME. Pp. 261. Price, \$3.00. Harper & Brothers, 1899.

The individuality of the Japanese race is shown to have caused many misunderstandings among western observers. The difficulty of understanding the Japanese is increased by his thirst for knowledge and by his good-natured desire to give no offence by expressing disapproval. Western critics are prone to call the Japanese an immoral race, but the latter have standards of their own which Mr. Ransome thinks they realize as nearly as do the Europeans or Americans their differing standards. Their eagerness for knowledge of all sorts will lead them to missionary schools, where they are willing to be called Christians if the teacher will be any happier thereby, and they will not openly antagonize the idea, although the author thinks there is not one genuine, devout Christian to 100,000 of the population.

They adopt our customs, but give them a Japanese characteristic; they dramatize our works, but with a strong Japanese flavor. They master every branch of science, but regard our ways as evil, and the westernizing of their country as an evil—a necessary one, however, if they are to continue independent. They realize that they must fight fire with fire, accordingly they buy ironclads and reorganize armies after the European patterns.

Their new Parliament, which stands on the ruins of feudalism but thirty years gone, is inextricably split up on domestic matters, but it showed the Chinese a wonderful unanimity in voting war supplies. All Japanese agree in hating Russia and hoping and planning and arming for the day when Japan shall be the England of the East and dominate the Asiatic shore of the Pacific. In the meantime she regards the Anglo-Saxon nations as her friends and natural allies because of the similarity of interests; but "Japan for the Japanese" has already become a popular shibboleth. The process of dismissing their foreign advisers has also begun in some cases, the people feeling that it would be better to bear with the mistakes of Japanese officials. The book is accompanied by specially prepared maps and is well illustrated.

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DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS important contributions have been made toward a comprehensive history of one of the most unique third party movements in the United States, that of the Know Nothing party. The latest of these contributions is the History of the Party in Maryland.\* This State offered an especially interesting field for such a study, as it alone of all the original states contained a considerable native American element attached to the Catholic Church, against

\* *History of the Know Nothing Party in Maryland.* By LAURENCE FREDERICK SCHMECKEBIER. Johns Hopkins University Studies in History and Political Science, Series xvii, Nos 4-5. Pp. 125. Price 75 cents. Baltimore, 1899.

which this movement was so largely directed. The monograph presents a valuable study of the chief phenomena of the movement, based upon a careful examination of contemporary literature, and the testimony of "survivors" of the period. The particular local causes for the movement, the attempt of the Catholic Church to obtain a partition of the school fund, and the large influx of German immigrants and their "radical demands," are clearly shown. The picture of the disorder and violence attendant upon the elections of the period, which were not confined to Maryland, nor peculiar to the adherents of the Know Nothing Party, affords a striking contrast to the methods of to-day. The original purpose of the party was soon so far lost sight of, that the Know Nothing legislature, at the height of its power, failed to pass any anti-foreign or anti-Catholic measures. With the collapse of the national aspirations of the party in 1856, the local party, after carrying one more State election, moved rapidly to its downfall, owing to its internal divisions, the violence of its methods, the loss of definite principles,—save desire for office,—and the absorption of its membership by the new Constitutional Union Party in the election of 1860. Poor proof-reading and a few inelegant expressions mar the otherwise scholarly character of the work.

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PROFESSOR WALLACE'S Constitutional History of South Carolina from 1725 to 1775 forms the first part of a history of that State from 1725 to 1810.\* The volume deals with the constitution of the colony under the Royal Government; with the Stamp Act; the relations of the Commons and Council; the appropriation of the public money; and the attempt of the Commons to abolish the legislative character of the Council. It therefore will be seen that the author has merely blazed his path; the constructive work is yet to be done. But while the value of the finished work as a history is yet *in nubibus*, the faults of that portion already in print are but too apparent. Lack of continuity is noticeable throughout; and the author's style frequently lapses into the colloquial and sometimes becomes even frivolous, as when, for example, he steps from behind the impersonal page and addresses us, directly with "Forget all else, but remember this;" or, as on page 75, he speaks of the Governor loading his gubernatorial cannon with a bombshell of prorogation and blowing the "Assembly into the *middle of week after next*."

Mr. Wallace has undertaken a task, the successful accomplishment of which will be welcomed by all who are interested in South Caro-

\* *Constitutional History of South Carolina from 1725 to 1775*. By D. D. WALLACE. A. M., Ph. D. Pp. xii, 93. Abbeville, S. C.: Hugh Wilson, 1899.

lina, and in the constitutional history of our states generally; he has brought to bear on the task an evident love of his subject, and commendable industry in his search for facts. It is hoped that the finished work will be free from the faults noticed in the part so far published.\*

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MR. WARNER makes a good attempt at a continuous narrative of English industrial history, notwithstanding the deprecation of that ideal involved in his title.† He really discusses almost all the significant conditions and movements in the economic, and, in the narrower sense, in the social history of England, from the Roman Conquest to the Factory Laws. His indebtedness to the two works to which he refers in his preface is quite evident, though perhaps not more so than all later writers must be to those who are pioneers in their subject. The chief excellency in his book, in addition to the point already spoken of, is its clear, moderate, rational descriptions and comments. The chief adverse criticism to be made is its too careless attribution of facts which we only know to be true of one period to the conditions of another. Instances of this are to be found in the use of documents belonging to the thirteenth century for the description of England in the time of Domesday, and in a general antedating of gild organization and changes. The treatment becomes better and better as it comes downward in date, and a continuous reading can be heartily recommended not only to one who may wish to see clearly the "landmarks" of England's industrial development, but still more to the one who needs to have his reading in more familiar and favored aspects of history corrected and broadened by a knowledge of the more fundamental facts of social life in each successive period.

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#### REVIEWS.

*The Evolution of the English House.* By SIDNEY O. ADDY, M. A. Pp. 223. Price, \$1.50. New York: Macmillan Company, 1899.

This work, which is one of the "Social England Series," throws additional light upon the "economic interpretation of history." The plan of the series is clearly given in the editorial preface, which shows how insufficient for scientific purposes are the data obtained by the study of biography or acts of parliament, if the forces of social environment are omitted.

Social questions are foremost in public thought to-day, and the answers to these questions must be sought, not in the lives of indi-

\* Contributed by Professor W. E. Mikell, University of Pennsylvania.

† *Landmarks in English Industrial History.* By GEORGE TOWNSEND WARNER, A. M. Pp. 386. Price 6s. London: Blackie & Son, 1899.